

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

ANDREA C. MERGENS,

Civil No. C20-6111-SKV

Plaintiff,

vs.

ORDER OF REMAND

COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SECURITY,

Defendant.

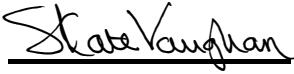
Based on the stipulation between the parties, it is hereby ORDERED that the above-captioned case be REVERSED and REMANDED for further administrative proceedings including a *de novo* hearing pursuant to sentence four of 42 U.S.C. § 405(g). The Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) will issue a new decision. Upon remand, the Appeals Council will instruct the ALJ to further develop the record and:

- reevaluate the medical opinion evidence and treatment notes;
- assess the severity of Plaintiff's Hashimoto's disease, Epstein-Barr virus, and Raynaud's syndromes, as well as their corresponding limitations;
- consider the evidence in accordance with Social Security Ruling (SSR) 14-1p for cases involving Chronic Fatigue Syndrome;

- 1 • reevaluate Plaintiff's subjective complaints;
- 2 • reevaluate Plaintiff's maximum physical and mental residual functional capacity as
- 3 required by SSR 96-9p;
- 4 • reconsider the lay witness evidence;
- 5 • proceed with the remaining steps of the sequential evaluation process;
- 6 • as needed, obtain supplemental vocational or medical expert evidence to determine
- 7 whether Plaintiff could still do her past relevant work, or other work existing in
- 8 significant numbers in the national economy;
- 9 • offer Plaintiff the opportunity for a hearing, and take any further action needed to
- 10 complete the administrative record and issue a new decision.

11 The parties agree that reasonable attorney fees may be awarded under the Equal Access
12 to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2412, upon proper request to the Court.

13 DATED this 13th day of October 2021.

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15 
16 S. KATE VAUGHAN
17 United States Magistrate Judge

18 Presented by:

19 s/ L. Jamala Edwards _____
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